



## **Vegetation Rapid Assessment Workshop Muir Heritage Land Trust, Martinez, CA March 13 - 15, 2007**

### **Class Announcement and Registration Form**

Please join the California Native Plant Society (CNPS), the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), and the Muir Heritage Land Trust (MHLT) for a three-day, public vegetation rapid assessment workshop in Martinez, CA.

**This course is a combination of lecture and field exercises  
on vegetation sampling with references to  
fine-scale classification and mapping**

**Target Audience:** Professional botanists, ecologists, land managers, resource specialists, academics, and conservationists. Participants should have an initial understanding of the subject matter and basic plant identification skills. This course focuses on sampling plant communities.

**Class Size:** Limited to 25 participants

#### **Instructors**

**Todd Keeler-Wolf**, CDFG Senior Vegetation Ecologist (1<sup>st</sup> day)

**Julie Evens**, CNPS Senior Vegetation Ecologist, (all 3 days)

**Josie Crawford**, CNPS Training Coordinator (all 3 days)

**Rachelle Boul**, CNPS Vegetation Assistant (all 3 days)



#### **Participants will learn**

- How vegetation sampling is used for classification and mapping
- Applications of fine-scale vegetation sampling, classification and mapping
- How to collect data using the CNPS Rapid Assessment protocol
- How vegetation information fits into County General Management Plans, CEQA, HCP's, NCCP's, etc.

#### **Vegetation Rapid Assessments are used to assess or identify**

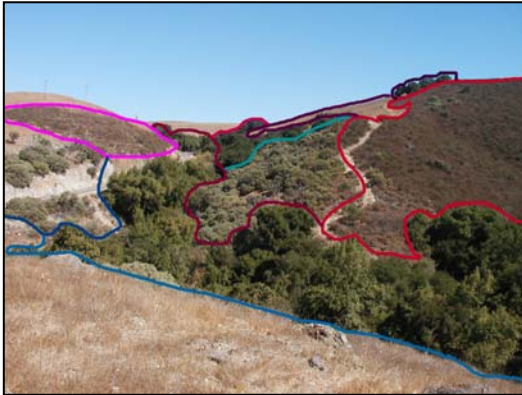
- A large area in a short amount of time
- Type, location, and distribution of vegetation types (alliance level and below)
- Composition and abundance information of the dominant, characteristic, rare, and exotic plant species
- General site environmental factors
- Wildlife Habitat Relationships (WHR)
- Validation of vegetation mapping delineations (alliance level and below)
- Site quality and intensity of disturbances



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#### Instructor Biographies

**Todd Keeler-Wolf** is the Senior Vegetation Ecologist for the California Department of Fish and Game. He is co-author with John Sawyer of *A Manual of California Vegetation* and co-editor of the Third Edition of the *Terrestrial Vegetation of California* (published this spring by UC Press). He also leads the Vegetation, Classification and Mapping program for the Department. He has been the principal ecologist on National Park, Department of Fish and Game, and other high priority vegetation

projects throughout the state. He has been active as an ecologist in California for over 30 years.

**Julie Evens** is the Lead Vegetation Ecologist with the California Native Plant Society, where she directs CNPS vegetation projects and analyzes vegetation data. She is co-author with John Sawyer and Todd Keeler-Wolf of the second edition of *A Manual of California Vegetation*. She has spent time as crew leader on major vegetation projects in Sequoia-Kings Canyon National Parks and the Mojave Desert, and she has been an active plant ecologist for over 10 years. She currently coordinates vegetation inventories and training sessions across California and manages sampling protocols, databases, and classifications.

**Josie Crawford** is the Training Coordinator for the Vegetation Program of CNPS and has been teaching Vegetation Rapid Assessment and Relevé sampling methods for the past two years. She has been teaching people about California native plants for the past 15 years. Currently she is developing the Plant Science Training Program for CNPS, which will offer a variety of trainings for professional and practicing botanists and ecologists.

**Rachelle Boul** is a Vegetation Assistant for CNPS working on various projects. She also has worked for the CDFG Vegetation Classification and Mapping program with Todd Keeler-Wolf and Diana Hickson on a vegetation sampling, classification, and mapping project in the Sacramento Delta.

#### Materials and Resources Provided

- Course materials for lecture on a CD (e.g., slides and reference material)
- Data sheets, maps, and references for all field exercises
- Certificate of completion for participants who successfully complete the three day course including completing two Vegetation Rapid Assessment field forms on the third day.

#### Workshop will be held rain or shine

See below for the agenda, equipment list, and location (pg. 3-4) and registration form (p. 5). The field sampling protocols, field forms, and workshop announcement are available at our web site, [www.cnps.org](http://www.cnps.org), by clicking on the "Vegetation Science" link.



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### **March 13 - 15, 2007**

## **Proposed Agenda for the Three-day Workshop**

**We will meet at 8:45 a.m. at the Muir Heritage Land Trust office for coffee and breakfast snacks**

*604 Ferry Street, downtown  
Martinez, between Main Street and Escobar Street.*

### **Day 1 – Tues March 13**

#### **Indoor Lecture:**

**9:00 a.m.** Introductions

**9:30 a.m.** Overview of vegetation sampling, classification and mapping

#### **Field Exercise:**

**11:00 a.m.** Head to field site and start field exercise

#### **Noon Lunch**

**1:00 p.m.** Introduction to sampling using the Vegetation Rapid Assessment Method

**4:30 p.m.** Wrap up discussion and then break for the day (at 5:00 p.m.)

### **Day 2 – Wednesday, March 14**

#### **Field Exercise all day:**

**9:00 a.m.** Meet at Fernandez Ranch and split into groups

Spend entire day in the field practicing Vegetation Rapid Assessment techniques

#### **Noon Lunch**

**1:00 p.m.** Sample all afternoon

**4:30 p.m.** Reconvene to discuss the day

**5:00 p.m.** Break for day

### **Day 3 – Thursday, March 15**

#### **Field Exercise all day:**

**9:00 a.m.** Meet and split into groups of two to three

**9:45 a.m.** Complete 2 rapid assessments for a Certificate of completion

#### **Lunch**

**3:30 p.m.** Q & A, Evaluation Forms

**4:00 p.m.** End of the Workshop.



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#### **Equipment list**

##### **Please bring the following**

Clipboard  
Notebook and pencil  
Sturdy boots and field clothes  
Clothing appropriate for the weather and conditions (e.g. protection from rain, sun, cold, poison oak, insects etc.)  
Bottles of water  
Bag lunches  
Snacks

##### **Please bring the following items (optional)**

Compass and/or clinometer  
Binoculars  
Digital camera  
GPS unit

#### **Location**

##### **Muir Heritage Land Trust (MHLT)**

On the first day of the workshop, we will meet at the MHLT offices at 604 Ferry Street in downtown Martinez, between Main Street and Escobar Street. Parking is at meters outside. The room is upstairs, not accessible for wheelchairs. *We will send more specific directions when you register.*

On March 14 & 15, we will meet at the Fernandez Ranch property near the Martinez office. This ranch is a new acquisition of the land trust and it has a variety of vegetation types for us to sample over the course of the three-day workshop.





## Vegetation Rapid Assessment Workshop Muir Heritage Land Trust, Martinez, CA March 13 - 15, 2007

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Organization/Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone numbers: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: (please print clearly): \_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTRATION FEE

**\$375 for 3 days, if received by mail or fax by Feb 15, 2007**

**\$425 for 3 days, if received by mail or fax after Feb 15, 2007**

Last day to cancel your registration and receive a 50% refund is Feb 23, 2007  
After Feb 23, we will not be able to refund your registration fee.

Registration is limited to 25 participants and is on a first-come/first-serve basis.

### PAYMENT METHOD

\_\_\_ **Check**    Make check payable to **California Native Plant Society**

\_\_\_ **Credit Card (see below)**

Visa/MasterCard #: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on the Card: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Mail this form with payment to:</b>	California Native Plant Society 2707 K Street, Suite 1 Sacramento, CA 95816 Attn: Vegetation Rapid Assessment Workshop
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**You may also FAX your form with Credit Card information to (916) 447-2727**

Please note: For any questions *regarding payment* information and *receipts*,  
please call Christina Neifer at the State CNPS office: (916) 447-2677.

For questions about *logistics* or the *contents of the workshop*, please contact the  
CNPS Training Coordinator, Josie Crawford: (916) 327-8454 or  
[jcrawford@cnps.org](mailto:jcrawford@cnps.org)